

# MAINE FARMER

AGRICULTURE MECHANIC ARTS GENERAL INTELLIGENCE

VOL. XV.

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NO. 13.



Our Home, our Country, and our Brother Man.

## FEED YOUR CROPS.

The farmer feeds the world. His business is that of a feeder of all around him. First, he must feed himself and family—then, he must feed his cattle, his horses, his sheep, his swine, his poultry. Then, he is expected to raise enough to feed a greater or less number of those who pursue other callings, such as the mechanic, the sailor, the professional man, &c., &c. Then, he must feed the fowls of the air, who, in spite of his care and anxiety, put in for a share of his labors—and thousands of insects and creeping things crowd upon him, and partake of what they can find suited to their tastes. All this he does by the crops that he raises, but, in order to meet this heavy demand upon him, in order to furnish a crop adequate to these demands, he must first feed the crops too. Ah! do the crops eat anything? Yes, and the more suitable and abundant the food, the fatter will the crop be. That field of grass, that field of wheat, and that corn, and that potato, are constantly eating wherewithal to sustain, nourish and increase their products. They need it as much as your horse or your ox. The better the supply, the better will be the return they will make to you, and of course the greater the reward for your care, toil and expense.

We mentioned to you, not long since, the remark of Dr. Beccaria more than a hundred years ago, that "we are composed of the same substances which serve as our nourishment." This same doctrine holds good in regard to plants. Dr. Lee, Principal of the Agricultural school near Rochester, New York State, has gone into an investigation of this matter. He first analyzes the plant, or produce, and finds out what it is made of. He then knows what materials must be supplied to it, in order to obtain a good crop. We will abridge some of his remarks in regard to the application of ashes, to wheat, for instance.

He found, by chemical analysis of wheat, that 100 lbs. of its ashes (wheat burned to ashes) contained 47 lbs. of phosphoric acid. He found also that 100 lbs. of oak ashes contained 2 pounds of phosphoric acid. Now how many pounds of dry oak ashes, must be applied to an acre, to give a crop of wheat, both straw and grain, equal to 30 bushels, and supply it with all the phosphoric matter needed?

In order to solve this problem we must remark that 30 bushels of wheat, at 60 lbs. per bushel, will weigh 1800 lbs. One hundred pounds of wheat, when burned, will yield 24 lbs. of ashes. Of course 1800 lbs. of wheat, will contain 401 lbs. of ashes, and this 401 lbs. will contain a trifle over 19 lbs. of phosphoric acid. To one pound of wheat there is usually 24 lbs. of straw. (The relative proportion of wheat to straw, varies exceedingly, as every one knows—nor is the quantity of ashes left from wheat straw, when burned, always the same. It varies from 3 to 16 per cent of dry straw. The average being not far from 7 per cent.)

We shall, therefore, in order to produce 30 bushels of wheat, have about 4500 lbs. of straw containing 315 lbs. of incombustible matter, which, if burned, will be left in the form of ashes. It has been found by experiment, that 100 lbs. of ashes from wheat straw, contain 3 and 1-10th pounds of phosphoric acid. This 4500 lbs. of straw will contain, therefore, 9.76 lbs. of phosphoric acid, which, added to the 19 lbs. in the wheat, will make 28.76 lbs. Well, now if you want to supply this phosphoric acid by oak ashes, containing 2 lbs. in every 100 lbs., you will need 1400 lbs. A bushel of such ashes will weigh nearly 70 lbs., so that you will want 20 bushels of ashes. This is a large quantity to the acre, supposing you wished to obtain the 30 bushels from the single acre. He suggests a more economical mode as follows. Spread the bushels of ash-phosphoric acid, which will give you about 14 lbs. of phosphoric acid, and then boil 100 pounds of bones to a powder in strong lye, and spread with them, or mix the powder with the ashes, before spreading, and you will have the amount desired.

He suggests that caustic ashes should be mixed with earth, before being spread, to prevent injury to tender plants. The following compound he recommends as being a valuable dressing, containing nearly all of the pure, earthy elements of all crops; viz:—

Ten bushels of ashes, five of gypsum, and three of common salt. This is applicable to almost every soil. It might be improved by adding one or two hundred pounds of bones, boiled to a powder, in a strong lye. Some soils require more and some less of it; and if the soil does not contain lime, ten bushels might be added to advantage. It may be spread on an acre without any injury, unless it may be a waste of the materials. We think some experiment will be needed, in order to learn how much will be enough, for you may throw down too much food to your plants, as well as to your dog, because if more be dissolved than the plants can take up, it must run to waste. Dr. Lee's motto is, in feeding plants, to "give them just what they need, and that little and often," just as the dews and showers come, which are more productive than a deluge would be to them.

Farmers! the time is at hand when you must begin to feed your crops, in order that you may thereby feed the world. In order to do this, successfully, you ought to know what they are made of, so that you may supply them with food, containing the materials they require, to form a full and perfect crop of the kind in question.

It is not expected that you can all be chemists, or, if you were, that you could all devote your time to analysis of plants, and soils, and manures. You must, therefore, pay attention to those who do this business for you. We shall, in future numbers, give the analysis of other crops, as made by some of our most skillful chemists.

## DRAINAGE AND IRRIGATION.

Water is an indispensable agent in the production of vegetable life, but a redundancy of it is no less fatal than its entire absence. Lands that are flooded during a large part of the year, exhibit usually but little if any vegetative power. In times of protracted drought, they often suffer more than the highest uplands, for the action of the soil being confined exclusively to the surface, as soon as the weather becomes hot and dry, the plants wither and droop for want of sufficient nourishment. Such lands, however, are by no means deficient in the elements of fertility, and, when properly managed, often become highly and permanently productive. Most of those extensive swamps and bogs which abound in many sections of our country, may be reclaimed simply by deepening the natural passages of the water—a single ditch, in many instances, is all that would be necessary to draw off all the water that it would be proper to discharge. Some of the most valuable lands in the country have been redeemed in this way, and at a very slight expense. As to irrigation, there are three methods commonly recognized by the skillful agriculturists. First, by inundation; second, by irrigation, and, third, by causing the water to flow back in the ditches. "In some localities," remarks Von Thuer, in his "Principles of Agriculture," "waters may be so arranged as to admit of these modes of proceeding being alternately adopted, according as they seem best adapted to attain the end in view." In most parts of this country, irrigation is but seldom employed as a means of agrestic enrichment, and its principles are but imperfectly understood.

## SOWING GRASS SEED.

One very prominent error which we would particularly allude to at this time in the important work of laying lands to grass, is the withholding sufficient seed. The necessity of sowing grass seed evenly, and sufficiently thick to ensure the occupation of the entire surface of the soil, is one that cannot but be obvious to all.

In most fields there are not half the number of plants of the artificial grasses, which should find footing in the soil. This gives an opportunity for the native grasses, and noxious weeds to come in, which is always a serious disadvantage to the farmer, and a heavy injury to the crop, as hay. In this business, the only true policy for the farmer to adopt, is, to sow "too much" rather than not enough. By allowing a large quantity of seed, he will draw his crop to a finer texture, and run no risk of having a part, and that, not unfrequently, a large one, uncultivated, or crowded with weeds. It has been remarked that it would be as reasonable for a farmer to permit one half of the milk to remain in his cow's udders, as to permit his fields, that have been properly prepared for the reception of grass seed, to remain uncultivated or covered with worthless plants. "Nature," says one, "never works in this way; give her time, and do not counteract her efforts, and she fills every space with some profitable production."

Every farmer should endeavor to increase, as far as practicable, the fertility and productiveness of his soil. It costs no more to cultivate an acre of grass land which produces two tons of hay, than to cultivate one from which but half a ton is obtained. We fear, however, that on this important subject, so inflexibly and pertinaciously have the minds of the farming community, generally, been fixed by the clogs and hampers of old prejudices and long established usages, that we shall realize the truth of the ancient adage:—

"Advice gratuitous, is sought; If merely read, it is dearly bought; But the price, at last, is paid, When wisdom's voice and kindly meant."

Hay is an important staple, and any means to increase the amount annually produced, is certainly deserving of serious regard, by every one who owns or occupies a farm. w.

**CRIMSON CLOVER**—(*Trifolium incarnatum*.) The following remarks upon the cultivation and valuable characteristics of this plant, we extract from Sinclair's "Code of Agriculture." After a few preliminary observations touching the tardiness of its introduction, (in England,) he goes on to say:—

"If sown in autumn, after a crop of potatoes or other roots, it produces next spring a crop fit for selling cattle, eight days earlier than lucerne, and a fortnight earlier than red clover. Care, however, must be taken to have good seed, and not sow it too deep. It produces two excellent crops in one year; the first of which should be cut as soon as it comes into flower, and the second will produce a considerable quantity of seed. From its early growth in spring, when other articles for feeding stock with advantage are so difficult to be obtained, it is likely to become a valuable acquisition to British husbandry."

The clovers are a very numerous family. By some botanists there are enumerated not less than fifty-five species, all of which belong to the genus of which the clovers cultivated by farmers as hay, are varieties. Of these, the red clover, (*Trifolium pratense*), and the white clover, (*Trifolium repens*), are the best known in this country, and the most valuable when cut and cured as hay for stock, as well as for purposes of pasturage. w.

**THE FARMER'S CREED.** The following creed, by — we know not whom, we would have carefully transcribed in letters of gold, and hung up in every farm house and cottage in the land. It contains, in fact, "salutis in parvo."

"Let this be held the farmer's creed: In peace and plenty let them feed; Let their land ever with the best of seed; Let it be sown with care and speed; And you will soon be rich indeed."

## APPLICATION OF GREEN MANURE.

Mr. HOLMES.—It is a point with me, when I send a communication, to send a subscriber along with it, as a fee to the printer; hence, to obtain one, I have delayed, somewhat, to notice two articles in your paper from "Young Farmer" and "Plow Jockey," who appear to take some exceptions to what I said in regard to the application of green manure.

Some good friend kindly borrowed, without leave, that number of my paper which contains "Young Farmer's" article, and has, probably, forgotten to return it; I cannot, therefore, refer to his remarks in particular. I wish all would take the Maine Farmer who love to read it, or else return borrowed ones, so that I should not so frequently find a few pages torn from a choice volume. I will, however, offer a few remarks, and then yield the palm to your more able correspondents.

I did not intend to advance the idea that most of the virtues of green manures were not transmitted to the soil, when well turned in, but the too frequent mode of applying to the surface of plowed land, and then harrowing some of it in, and some out, thus leaving a considerable part bleaching in the sun and rain, is a bad principle and a worse practice.

The chief object I had in view, in rotting, or decomposing manure, in the way suggested, was to save all its virtues, make more of it, and thus enlarge the farmer's resources. "Plow Jockey" says he "has no doubt but that the waste improves the manure, but if 'Rolly's' friend had piled up the straw, loam, &c., and then turned that wash upon it, and hauled his green manure out and put it on his crops, I think he would have done better." Here I would remark, that by this process, none of the virtues of the green manure are lost to itself, that is, no more than would be lost by hauling it to the fields green, while the admixture is greatly improved by taking up or retaining the gases emitted by fermentation; in fact I have seen a whole heap of alternate layers of barn manure, loam, weeds, &c., charged with ammonia, and so well assimilated that it would cut as smooth as a Dutch cheese. And I cannot, as yet, believe that decomposed manure, as it more readily enters into the composition of the soil, is not more beneficial to the crops, and all concerned. And, further, the corn stalks, straw, &c., which is thrown out with the manure, by going to the field in nearly a perfect state, generally produces but little benefit; while if decomposed by fermentation and leaching before application, the particles go dripping to the soil with the precious fluid, which gives life to vegetation and wealth to the farmer.

"Plow Jockey's" two reasons for using green manure are, first, "it certainly wastes some" by this process of decomposing, and second, "that waste improves his crops." Our theory is, first improve the soil and let that improve the crops; but we think the manure, if properly managed, will waste as little as when carefully covered in the soil; and, secondly, that was or was not the manure, greatly improves the admixture. He says "my practice is to put what manure my cattle make during the summer under my corn, and then harrow in a plentiful supply of green manure to feed the corn when it most needs food. Now 'Rolly' will see that this plan is better than to have all the manure old, which gives the corn a great start at first, but when it needs food most, it has not a sufficient supply to fill out the large number of ears that are formed by over-feeding, in the spring."

This may be good philosophy, but our ideas are, to let the corn depend upon an enriched soil for food, instead of manure applied directly to the roots. He will perceive that by using decomposed manure, properly prepared, with a large admixture, (perhaps) of green manure, the farmer has a beautiful supply of manure, and if it is well mixed in the soil, and the corn has a start in the spring by an application in the fall, its extending roots will continue to find a sufficient supply of nourishment until harvest.

With due respect for our friend's experience and success, we will seek with him for the best way of managing manure and improving the soil. ROLLY.

East Standish, March, 1847.

## FOR THE MAINE FARMER.

### CORN.

Mr. HOLMES.—By reference to statistical facts, we are informed that the amount of corn, produced in our country in a single year, will give upwards of twenty bushels to each inhabitant. Now, what will be said of a country capable of producing such a vast amount of human subsistence? But, in truth, agriculture, with us, is yet in its infancy. What will be said of our national resources when the science and the practice of farming shall be carried to a high extent?

A distinguished writer says that "Indian corn is the most important plant that can be introduced into the agriculture of any country, whose climate will suit it." It may be contended, by some, that the growing of Indian corn in the extreme northern parts of our country is unprofitable. This may prove to be an error. By skillful management, good crops of corn may be raised in every section of our State of Maine. Further, a corn should be had in selected the right kind of soil—the right location—the right kind of seed, and an abundance of the right kind of manure. Let it be said that, in any part of the State of Maine, one hundred bushels of Indian corn, of a superior quality, can be raised upon a single acre of land, and what next? Who, among our farmers, will mourn or repine? Should not the heart rather swell with gratitude to the glorious Giver? And, in view of the vast amount of prosperity which is placed within our reach, may we not express a hope that our agriculturists may be more fully aroused to action, and that we may witness the rapid advancement of real agricultural improvement.

J. E. ROLLY.

Runford, March, 1847.

## FOR THE FARMER.

### SOWING WHEAT.

Mr. EDITOR: In your last paper I find the following:— "Wheat. Wheat is said to be far less liable to injury by the grain worm when sowed late; but, to offset this advantage, is more exposed to rust. Late sowing extends the period of maturation into what is usually denominated by farmers, 'dog day weather,' which is likely to engender rust."

Now, what I want to ask is, what is a farmer to learn from that? What do you call early sowing, and late sowing? I know but one time to sow—the right time. What time is the right time? I should like to have "W" answer. I want the time fixed for a particular season, say, for instance, for the 1st of June, and then the farmers in those localities will know what they are about. Early and late sowing are terms so indefinite as to afford no certain time, to sow wheat, and I have never been troubled with the grain worm, or the "dog-day rust." If "W" does not tell when that time is, I will.

Well, Doctor, what do you think of Maine farmers raising their own flour, corn and meat, now, at present prices? Had we better continue to buy it? I thought that the great West, bounded by all down east, was to supply us cheap, from her exhaustless surplus. But only think what prices are, and then think of the poor. Flour \$8, corn \$1.12 to \$1.25, pork, \$20 per barrel, and a York shilling per pound, at retail. Round hogs in Bangor, 8 3-4 for the best; beef on the hoof, from 4 to 6 dollars per cwt.; in New York, from 5 to 10 dollars per cwt.; butter, 20 cts. in Bangor, and 28 in Boston; potatoes, from 50 to 55 cts., in Bangor. Don't you think the farmers in Maine ought to have a little more encouragement? How would it do for about one half of the farmers to go and work on the projected railroads, and the other half put what little capital they have got into the stock? There would be a market then for the surplus production, and farmers would feel encouraged. I wish you would urge this view of the subject, upon farmers, because there are a great many farmers, and farmers' wives and sons and daughters, who think the business is so crowded that there is no chance for them to do nothing; and so they do nothing, but fret, and whine, and grumble for the want of encouragement, and a market.

A GLENVIEW FARMER.

**BOMMER'S METHOD OF MAKING MANURE.** To J. E. ROLLY, Esq.—Sir: In your communication, in a late number of the Maine Farmer, you suggest the "importance of farmers studying the intimate nature of the different kinds of plants, and ascertain what kinds of food are required, and the best mode of preparing the same."

In connection with the above, permit me to name another study of no less importance to the farmer. The nature of the grounds we cultivate, their various qualities, and what they are capable of producing. The idea of graduating manures, according to the nature of the plants, and soil, has scarcely been thought of by farmers; but now, no one need remain destitute of this knowledge. Many celebrated chemists have given us the result of their labors, in the closet, and laboratory. Mr. Bommer, has given us the result of his labors and experiments, in the barn-yard, and in the field. It is true, his method is founded on correct chemical principles, being the result of practical experiments, and explained in a way so simple, that they can be understood and put in practice by any farmer. By this method we can ascertain the nature of plants and analyze our grounds by simple means without the aid of chemistry, with sufficient exactness to serve our purpose, and consequently, can compose our manures, and vary them according to the nature of the plant, and soil. And by means of a manure, graduated and appropriated to the nature of the vegetable planted, we can force all kinds of plants with a vigor heretofore unknown. It was said by a celebrated chemist that "the scarcity of manures, and their unskillful employment, are the principal causes of the sterility of a country. In vain are united efforts to discover new modes of culture, to reform the already known, and improve agricultural implements; if we neglect the first sources of fecundity, the crops will always be indifferent and uncertain." Is not this scarcity of manures, and their unskillful employment, the principal cause of our slow progress and success in agriculture. We have depended on cattle and mineral substances, to manure our exhausted grounds, which never can be obtained, in sufficient quantities, to supply the wants of our farms. There is not, probably, a farm in our state, that does not contain the material, if judiciously applied, to advance it to a high state of cultivation. If farmers would give their attention to this subject, and avail themselves of the helps and improvements, within their reach, and put forth a little skill in the manufacture and application of their manures, and being blessed with showers and sunshine, we should hear no more of short crops, and the manna for emigration to the far west (in pursuit of a more genial climate and productive soil) would cease to agitate our community. You have expressed a desire that "Mr. Bommer's mode of managing the manure heap, should be spread abroad." This surely would be a very desirable object, and one in which every farmer is deeply interested, and for its accomplishment we depend on the intelligent and enterprising agriculturists, who, by adopting it themselves, induce others to imitate their example. In conclusion, allow me to say, that Mr. Bommer's system is becoming a favorite with the farmer, and we anticipate, with the length and breadth of our State.

E. W.

Brumfield, March, 1847.

## FOR THE MAINE FARMER.

### CURE FOR CHOKED CATTLE.

Mr. HOLMES.—Several years ago an ox of mine got an apple in his throat, and I poured a pint of oil down; but it did no more good than it would if I had poured it into a hollow stump, that I could see. I then took an oak whiptock and pushed the apple down, and he was well.

Ever since that time I have kept an instrument made on purpose for the business. It is made of tough white oak, and very nearly the shape of a whiptock. The large end is

## FOR THE FARMER.

### FLOWING MEADOWS.

To flow meadows all winter, will kill out every kind of uncultivated grasses. Such meadows must be given up to the native wild water grasses. On such parts as are too dry for the water grasses, no grass of any value will grow. Flowing all winter will improve such meadows as cannot be drained so as to produce the cultivated grasses, but the water must be kept up so that the ice shall not come down upon the face of the meadow. After the hay is secured, frost set in, where there is no dam, at any time before the first of June, is beneficial to all meadows.

Over a large portion of Maine the lumbering business has become secondary to the agricultural. In such parts, from mere habit, large bodies of valuable meadow continue to be flowed all winter, which would be far more profitable to the public, if made to produce the cultivated grasses. In such parts of the State, if the saw mills that flow such tracts, were to be run only in the Spring, they would easily cut out the remaining lumber as fast as would benefit the region around them. Such an important change would much more easily be brought about, were it not that many dams flow the lands of other men.

Many are of opinion that the injury to cultivated grass arises wholly from the winter flowing. If any have experience, where meadows are flowed by dams, only in the Spring, they would confer a public benefit by making their experience known through the Maine Farmer, especially as to fowl meadow grass.

NOTE. There is much to be learned in regard to the management of our "bog meadows." They are of two kinds. One kind is flowed nearly seven months in the year, by dams. The other kind is only flowed during the spring freshets. We do not yet know what species of grass will flourish best in either of the above cases; nor what the qualities or ingredients of grasses, usually found in such situations, are. No analysis, we believe, have ever been made of them. [Ed.]

[For the Maine Farmer.]

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## MANUAL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE.

TRANSLATED, FOR THE MAINE FARMER, FROM THE FRENCH OF M. LEBLANC, IN L'Encyclopedie des Sciences et des Arts.

WITH NOTES BY THE EDITOR.

Fig.

A soft and insensible excoriation, upon the foot—it is divided, at the bottom, into several filaments—it appears, most commonly, upon those horses which stand upon filthy and moist floors, which take little exercise, upon those which have been raised in marshy districts, and especially those which have large and flat hoofs. There are two sorts of this disease—the simple, which attacks merely the frog of the foot; and the malignant, which extends to the fleshy parts of the foot—this last frequently causes the loss of the hoof. The only sure method of curing, even the simple fig, is to extirpate it, cutting deep enough to remove all the roots. The wound is dressed with raw linseed oil, and at the end of a few days, if it is not inclined to heal, it should be dressed with turpentine, or some other stimulating application.

The other species of fig should be treated in the same way—but before proceeding to extirpate the tumor, the horse should be kept on a strict diet, for some days, and a rowel put in the breast, and other means employed to draw away, as much as possible, the irritation from the diseased part. The fig is often a consequence of other diseases of the feet and legs, which have been suffered to run on without proper treatment. It is frequently incurable, when it is of long standing, according to some as an outlet for all the bad humors of the body.

Founder.

A spasmodic contraction of the muscles and viscera of the belly, which, without any apparent disease, causes the horse to drop and lose his appetite. The founder horse is shrunken and hollow—his hair is rough—his discharges are black and dry. It will be necessary to give him repeated injections—make him drink large quantities of warm water—feed him on moistened bran, with a little hay—and awaken his appetite by all possible means. He should be exercised, but not fatigued. A founder is sometimes caused by extreme fatigue, and it may be then necessary to bleed, especially if it is accompanied by fever. A founder sometimes falls upon the feet and legs, principally upon the vertebral column of the foot; it runs its course in a shorter or a longer time—hence the distinction between the acute and the chronic forms of the disease. The acute is always accompanied by fever, and sometimes causes the loss of the hoof. It frequently terminates in the loss of the hoof or spagy matter, between the hoof and the fleshy part of the foot. The chronic founder causes the hoof to grow out of shape in a variety of forms. The animal attacked by this form of the disease, has his legs stiff—he walks with difficulty—he is unwilling to move—and places his feet so as to rest upon his heels. The affected hoofs are very hot, and the muscles of the leg tremble.

Hard driving, on a rough or frozen road—too long inactivity in the stable—rearing too much upon one foot, when the other has some disease or hurt—green feed, or too much grain—bad shoeing—a sudden cold—drinking too much cold water, when he is warm, are the most common causes of this disease. Those horses that have naturally thin hoofs, and consequently tender feet, are the most liable to it. The shoes should be removed—the stall thickly littered with straw, and the horse put upon a strict diet. He should be bled—his legs bathed in cold water—and poultices, made of soft mixed up with vinegar, or clay mixed up with water in which green vitriol has been dissolved—scarifications round the top of the hoof—stimulating frictions to the legs—and purgatives, will furnish the proper treatment in these cases when the horse is in the early stage of the disease. In an old and chronic case, the hoof should be pared or rasped, wherever it is thickened, and softening poultices, as those of flaxseed, applied, and the horse should take blisters and strengthening medicines inwardly—but if it has been of long standing, it is difficult to effect a cure.

[NOTE. Recently, the operation of cutting the nerve which gives sensation to the foot,

## FOR THE FARMER.

### FLOWING MEADOWS.

To flow meadows all winter, will kill out every kind of uncultivated grasses. Such meadows must be given up to the native wild water grasses. On such parts as are too dry for the water grasses, no grass of any value will grow. Flowing all winter will improve such meadows as cannot be drained so as to produce the cultivated grasses, but the water must be kept up so that the ice shall not come down upon the face of the meadow. After the hay is secured, frost set in, where there is no dam, at any time before the first of June, is beneficial to all meadows.

Over a large portion of Maine the lumbering business has become secondary to the agricultural. In such parts, from mere habit, large bodies of valuable meadow continue to be flowed all winter, which would be far more profitable to the public, if made to produce the cultivated grasses. In such parts of the State, if the saw mills that flow such tracts, were to be run only in the Spring, they would easily cut out the remaining lumber as fast as would benefit the region around them. Such an important change would much more easily be brought about, were it not that many dams flow the lands of other men.

Many are of opinion that the injury to cultivated grass arises wholly from the winter flowing. If any have experience, where meadows are flowed by dams, only in the Spring, they would confer a public benefit by making their experience known through the Maine Farmer, especially as to fowl meadow grass.

NOTE. There is much to be learned in regard to the management of our "bog meadows." They are of two kinds. One kind is flowed nearly seven months in the year, by dams. The other kind is only flowed during the spring freshets. We do not yet know what species of grass will flourish best in either of the above cases; nor what the qualities or ingredients of grasses, usually found in such situations, are. No analysis, we believe, have ever been made of them. [Ed.]

[For the Maine Farmer.]

## MANUAL OF VETERINARY MEDICINE.

TRANSLATED, FOR THE MAINE FARMER, FROM THE FRENCH OF M. LEBLANC, IN L'Encyclopedie des Sciences et des Arts.

WITH NOTES BY THE EDITOR.

Fig.

A soft and insensible excoriation, upon the foot—it is divided, at the bottom, into several filaments—it appears, most commonly, upon those horses which stand upon filthy and moist floors, which take little exercise, upon those which have been raised in marshy districts, and especially those which have large and flat hoofs. There are two sorts of this disease—the simple, which attacks merely the frog of the foot; and the malignant, which extends to the fleshy parts of the foot—this last frequently causes the loss of the hoof. The only sure method of curing, even the simple fig, is to extirpate it, cutting deep enough to remove all the roots. The wound is dressed with raw linseed oil, and at the end of a few days, if it is not inclined to heal, it should be dressed with turpentine, or some other stimulating application.

The other species of fig should be treated in the same way—but before proceeding to ext











